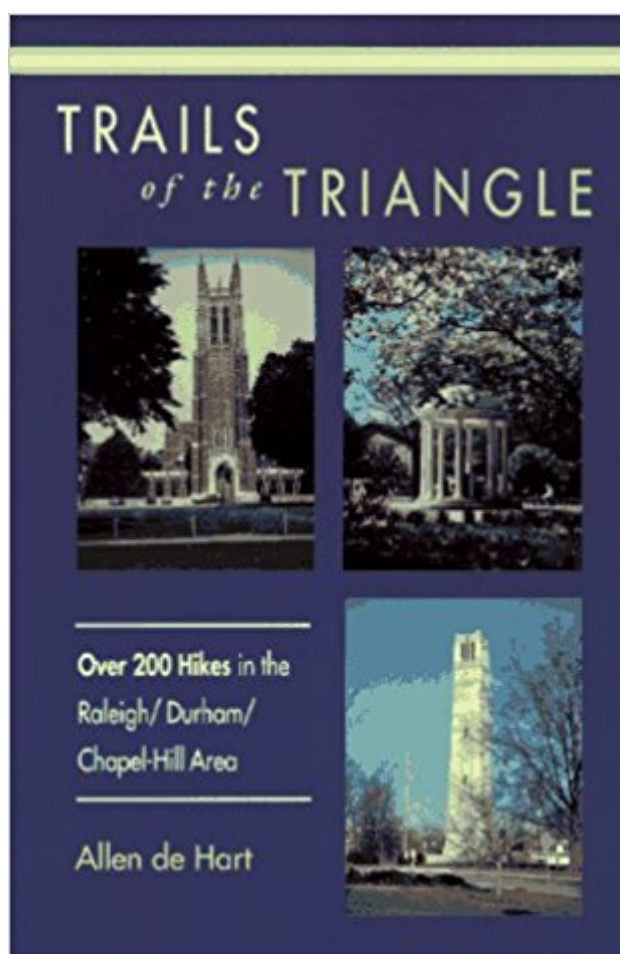


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Trails Of The Triangle: 200 Hikes In The Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill Area



Synopsis

Book by Hart, Allen De, De Hart, Allen

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Triangle is consistently rated one of the best places in the nation to live and work. Its rapidly growing population, now over a million, has generated a need for housing, shopping centers, and infrastructure_and for recreational facilities, among them hiking trails. Trails of the Triangle describes over 200 trails within a 60-mile radius of the Triangle, whether on federal, state, city/county, or private property. Included are the 23.4-mile Falls Lake Trail, the remote Buckhorn Trail, the many routes in Duke Forest, and the hikes in Raleigh's outstanding greenway system, the recipient of the United States of America Hall of Fame award in 1996. The reasons for the Triangle's ever-increasing popularity are well known among people who live here. But even longtime residents may be surprised at the full range of green spaces just outside their door.

Allen de Hart has hiked more than 8,500 different trails and over 30,000 miles in 46 states and 18 foreign countries. He completed the Appalachian Trail in 1978. De Hart is the author of numerous trail books, among them North Carolina Hiking Trails, which has sold over 100,000 copies, and Trails of the Triad, the companion to this volume. For 50 years, he has also published feature articles in newspapers and magazines including Appalachian Trailway, Sierra, Summit, and Outdoor Traveler. A retired history professor and director of public affairs at Louisburg College, he continues as adviser to the president in cultural affairs.

Overall, this is a great book with lots of good details and decent maps. The only issue I have with it is that some of the trails have changed a bit over the years since its printing in 1997. Admittedly, I've only checked out Umstead in depth, so this may not be an issue elsewhere.

My husband and I bought this book last year after we found ourselves looking for a new place to walk. We had been frequenting the Chapel Hill Greenway, and, well, it's just not very challenging. So, we picked up this book. It's a very informative book. There are maps of most of the trails, which really helps you get a feel of the lay of the trail. Each trail has is accompanied by a lengthy description which include items such as: *driving directions* flora on the trail *total distance of the trail* distance of trail segments *types of trails (dirt, gravel, footbridges) *geography of trail (hills, streams, roads to cross) The only issue we really had with the book were the driving directions. We were trying to get to a trail at Jordan Lake during the summer, and we weren't totally familiar with the area. We were following the directions in the book, but we really needed a few more geographical points to help us find the roads. Also, once we got to the trail area, we couldn't find the trailhead. The state did not do a good job marking the head, but it would have been nice to have known this in the trail description. However, we did "discover" the Duke cross country trail from this book. We enjoy this trail- it is the perfect length for us and it's difficult enough to be a challenge. We also discovered that if you get caught in a rainstorm out there, there's absolutely nowhere to go! If you like to walk in the Triangle, get this book!

This book is very poorly organized. It is divided into public and private trails, instead of by region. The index only contains the names of trails, not the names of the parks or places the trails are located. Some things which were missing from the book include a large map of the region with numbers indicating where the major trails are located and a listing of the trails with length and difficulty. If you can find the trail-heads the maps are very good and there are nice descriptions of the trails. This is not a good book if you are not familiar with the area.

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